



Press Release  
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## MAD CAVE VISITS ALA 2023 With Exciting Lineup of Authors and Upcoming Title Previews!



June 15, 2023, Chicago – Mad Cave’s Papercutz and Maverick Imprints are looking forward to an extremely busy ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition! From June 22nd through 27th in Chicago, Mad Cave will be stationed at Booth #1423 in the heart of McCormick Place, along with its Young Adult graphic novel imprint, Maverick, and our newly-acquired Middle-Grade imprint, Papercutz.

This year at ALA, attendees will have the chance to preview some of Mad Cave’s most buzzworthy upcoming and meet with authors Jennie Wood ([Paper Planes](#), out July 18), Jeremy Whitley ([School For Extraterrestrial Girls](#) Vol. 2, out November 28) , and Art Baltazar ([YAHGZ: The Craynobi Tales](#), out August 1st)!

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to preview the newest, highly anticipated original graphic novels from Mad Cave, including [Don’t Spit in the Wind #4](#) (Adult; July 2023), [Mariko Between Worlds](#) (Adult; September 2023), [John Tiffany](#) (Adult; July 2023), [Whisper of the Woods](#) (Adult; October 2023), [Paper Planes](#) (YA; July 2023), [Confetti Realms](#) (YA; October 2023), [YAHGZ:The Craynobi Tales](#) (Childrens; August 2023), and [School For Extraterrestrial Girls Volume 2](#) (Childrens; November 2023)!”

"I'm thrilled to be a part of the upcoming ALA Annual conference. It is an incredible opportunity for us to showcase the collective power and creative vision of all three of our brands: Mad Cave Studios, Maverick, and Papercutz while introducing our new titles and talented authors to the esteemed librarians, eager readers, and booksellers attending this

event,” said Allison Pond, Chief Marketing Officer, Mad Cave Studios. While we celebrate the joy of reading and learning, we also recognize the current discussions surrounding educational book bans. As a company, we stand firmly in support of librarians and teachers and parents who work tirelessly to provide diverse and inclusive literature to their communities. We understand the dynamic state of the industry and empathize with the challenges faced in promoting educational content. At Mad Cave Studios, we strive to create stories that inspire, entertain, and educate. We are dedicated to fostering a love for reading and empowering young minds through the pages of our graphic novels. We look forward to engaging with everyone at the conference, exchanging ideas, and working together to ensure that every reader has access to quality literature as we celebrate the magic of storytelling to make a positive impact in the lives of young readers. Together, we can overcome obstacles, champion literature, and continue to nurture a passion for learning. See you in Chicago!"

**See below for the full Lineup:**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>**

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

**JENNIE WOOD: THE INSPIRATION BEHIND PAPER PLANES**  
BOOTH #1423

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**MEET THE AUTHOR: JEREMY WHITLEY**  
**(SCHOOL FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL GIRLS)**  
BOOTH #1423

2:00 PM - 2:20 PM

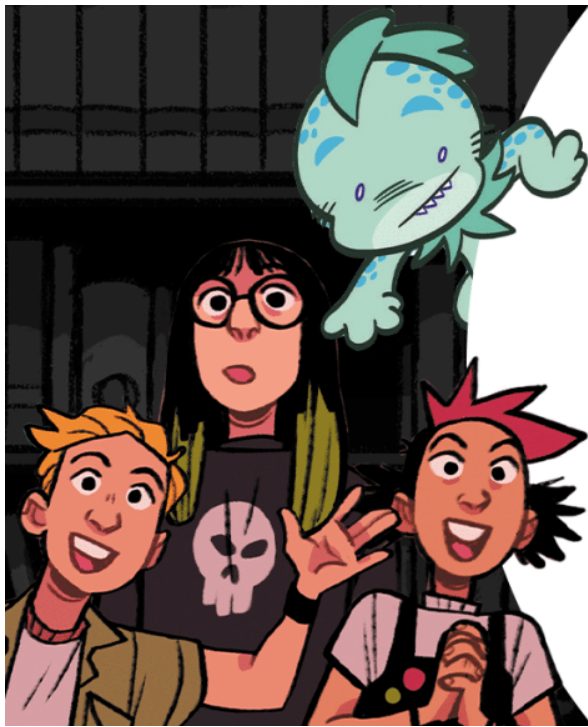
**AUTHOR SIGNING: JENNIE WOOD**  
**(PAPER PLANES)**

EXHIBIT HALL - AUTHOR AUTOGRAPHING STATION 1

2:00 - 2:50 PM

**AUTHOR SIGNING: ART BALTAZAR**  
**(YAHGZ)**

EXHIBIT HALL - AUTHOR AUTOGRAPHING STATION 4



**ALA ANNUAL**  
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION  
**CHICAGO**  
JUNE 22-27, 2023  
American Library Association

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>**

10:30 AM - 11:20 AM

**JENNIE WOOD: THE INSPIRATION BEHIND PAPER PLANES**  
GRAPHIC NOVEL / GAMING STAGE

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**ART BALTAZAR: BRINGING ART AND HUMOR  
INTO YOUR LIBRARIES**  
MCCORMICK PLACE, W181C

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**BUTTON MAKING**  
BOOTH #1423

3:20 PM - 3:50 PM

**WHAT'S BUZZING AT**  
**PAPERCUTZ GRAPHIC NOVELS & MAVERICK**  
EXHIBIT HALL - BOOK BUZZ THEATRE



**ALA ANNUAL**  
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION  
**CHICAGO**  
JUNE 22-27, 2023  
American Library Association

**MONDAY, JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup>**

9:30 AM - 10:20 AM

**ART AND HUMOR WITH ART BALTAZAR**  
GRAPHIC NOVEL / GAMING STAGE

**MORE INFO ON JENNIE WOOD AND [PAPER PLANES](#)**

High schoolers Leighton Worthington and Dylan Render have always been inseparable, but when they're both shipped off to a summer camp for troubled youth in the aftermath of a tragic event, their lifelong friendship is put to the test.

Neither 'chose' to be there, but they'll need a positive evaluation from the camp to avoid being sent away, so they can continue attending high school with their friends.

The challenges of camp pushes the once-inseparable Dylan and Leighton onto personal journeys of self-discovery that force them to re-examine the incident that threatens their futures, explore the friendship they have shared for so long, and discover the type of person each of them truly wants to be.

"Paper Planes has been a gift," said Jennie Wood. "The project gave me the opportunity to explore an intense grade school friendship soon after I found out that a close childhood friend of mine passed away. Grade school friendships have a unique place in our lives, I think in part because those relationships rarely survive the transition to high school. This story is about that more innocent time, the time right before high school, right before everything changes."

## **MORE INFO ON JEREMY WHITLEY & *SCHOOL FOR EXTRA TERRESTRIAL GIRLS*** [Vol 1 and Vol 2](#)

In [School for Extraterrestrial Girls Vol 2: Girls Take Flight \(Ages 7-12\)](#) the students of the School for Extraterrestrial Girls have met their match when they collide with the School For Extraterrestrial Boys!

The extraterrestrial girls are back! With their former school compromised, exposing Tara, Misako, Summer, and Kat, to possible danger from unknown alien forces, they all must relocate to a new hidden school--The School for Extraterrestrial Boys! Located on a hidden island in the arctic north, the new campus has a mysteriously warm summer climate, a beautiful lake, and dozens of sinister mysteries! The girls are staying in what appears to be summer cabins on the lake while going to school in the mysterious castle where the boys stay. This is all under the watchful eye of the boys' headmaster, Headmaster Stokes—an arrogant man with an unknown agenda and an obsession with Tara's people. They may still be in school, but this will be a semester full of blossoming romances, learning to love themselves, and trying to survive the mysteries of both this terrifying island and boys! Romance, magic, and near-death experiences are all part of a regular school day at the School for Extraterrestrial Girls.

"School for Extraterrestrial Girls, for us," said creator Jeremy Whitley, "was an opportunity to play in this fun space of BIG sci-fi (aliens, different worlds, different species) and at the same time ground it in very real feelings of coming of age. I think it's a fun and light read that will really stick with the people who need it," said creator Jeremy Whitley.

## **MORE INFO ON ART BALTAZAR and [YAHGZ: THE CRAYNOBI TALES](#)**

[YAHGZ: The Craynobi Tales](#) (Papercutz; August 1, 2023) is the newest book from renowned creator Art Baltazar, the beloved cartoonist known for his work on The Eisner Award winning "Itty Bitty Hellboy" and The *New York Times* bestselling "Tiny Titans."

**YAGHZ: The Craynobi Tales** tells the story of Craybi Craynobi and his son, Crayski Craynobi, as they adventure through mythical lands to try to save the city of Yahgz and its people, the Yahgeez,

from the Giant Green Gorilla and other foes. With their wits and helpful allies, they must work together to save Yahgz in this zany new graphic novel series.

“YAHGZ is a story I had on my mind for the last 30 years. It’s the first story I wrote when I first began my comic book career in 1992. Now with my years of Famous Cartooning experience, the CRAYS return to bring their epic story to the mainstream masses!”

**Mad Cave is looking forward to seeing everyone in Chicago!**

For additional press queries about ALA 2023 and the titles Mad Cave will feature, please contact James Faccinto at Mad Cave Studios: [jfaccinto@madcavestudios.com](mailto:jfaccinto@madcavestudios.com)



**About Mad Cave Studios:** Driven by madness and committed to quality. Mad Cave Studios provides quality entertainment with a fresh take on an array of genres. From fantasy and action to sci-fi and horror, Mad Cave publishes stories that resonate with unapologetic and authentic audiences.



**About Papercutz:** Papercutz is dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. Popular with reluctant readers and gifted readers alike, Papercutz graphic novels for kids, tweens, and teens include a wide range of genres, including humor, action adventure, mystery, horror, and favorite characters. We work every day to introduce young readers to the imaginative wonders waiting to be discovered in comics. To find out more visit <http://www.papercutz.com>.



**ABOUT MAVERICK**

Maverick, Mad Cave Studios' young adult imprint, offers engaging and authentic stories for those who think differently, are not afraid to be independent, and fight for who they truly are. With titles that range from slice-of-life stories to urban fantasy and horror, each Maverick